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road already mentioned leading into Kandia. Another road leads into the Swat valley and is a favourite route for traders.

Tangir and the neighbouring valley, Darel, are celebrated for the number and fine quality of their flocks and herds. Large numbers of sheep are here annually reared for sale to the inhabitants of the neighbouring valleys. Being somewhat straitened for summer pasture, the people of Tangir have long been in the habit of driving their flocks across the watershed to the Yassin country. In return for permission to graze, they pay to the ruler of Yassin a fixed tribute of salt and tobacco from each village. Besides this tribute, they give sheep and goats in varying numbers as a free gift. These payments have led to the Yassin rulers claiming the nominal allegiance of Tangir; but they make no attempt to exercise authority in the valley, which is to all intents and purposes a republican community like others in the Kohistan. Any attempt by the Yassin rulers to enter Tangir is resisted by force of arms, but the connection between the two communities has led to Tangir being regarded as the place of refuge for Yassin princes in misfortune. The people of Tangir pride themselves on giving asylum to all such who claim it, and it is seldom that the valley is long without some exiled member of the Khushwakté family. On such occasions the inhabitants contribute to his support as if he were their legitimate ruler, and if any attempt is made to seize him by force, they take up arms for a sufficient time to secure his safe retreat. Many a deposed ruler of Yassin has found a welcome in Tangir, where in the days of his power he would have been opposed by force of arms. Though Mahommedanism is of comparatively recent introduction, the people of Tangir are more fanatical than any of their neighbours, except those of Chilas, owing probably to their more intimate relations with Swat. They say of themselves that they have been Mussulmans for six generations. They marry with Yassin women, but refuse to give daughters in return, on account of the slave-selling practised by Yassin rulers.

Six miles above the mouth of the Tangir stream, the Darel Valley joins the Indus. Though small, this valley is extremely fertile and well populated. From its head, roads lead into Tangir, Yassin, Ponyal, and Gilgit. The principal villages are Birokot (fort), 800 houses; Doodookot (fort) 700 houses, in the Samangal district; Manikal (fort), 140 houses; Rashmal (fort), 120 houses, in the Joomeh district; and Gaiyal (fort), 500 houses. The whole community, including the dependent